(e) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) It has been observed that the number of beneficiaries taking I.S.M. & Homoeopathy treatment is less compared to the beneficiaries taking Allopathic treatment in and outside Delhi.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

(e) The question does not arise.

(f) Due to financial constraints.

Incentive-based Scheme for Family Planning

1822. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to de-centralise the incentive-based scheme for motivating the people to adopt family planning;

(b) whether adequate funds are likely to be given to the States for ensuring good performance in reducing the birth rate; and

(c) whether Government have devised any scheme for devolution of resources to the States under the new scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c) The existing scheme of cash compensation under which funds are released to the States/Union Territories on the basis of their performance figures of sterilisations/IUD insertions is proposed to be amended and is proposed to be linked to the birth reduction efforts made by them. The modified scheme is being designed to aim at providing greater flexibility to the States/UTs. to utilise the funds available under the scheme in the most optimal manner and to ensure wider coverage of younger couples with greater fertility potential under spacing methods. Full details of the scheme are being worked out.

Growth of Herbs

1823. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that herbs are an important ingredient in the Ayurvedic and Unani System of medicines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of herbs have disappeared due to destruction of flora and fauna in the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that many Ayurvedic and Unani medicines have lost their efficacy as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, whether Government have chalked out any plan to promote the growth of these herbs, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARATHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the herbs used in Ayurvedic and Unani Systems of medicine are not available in required quantity.

(c) No specific study has been made for the purpose.